

Filed for intro on 06/07/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 828

By Kerr

A RESOLUTION to commend Chilhowee Club for its outstanding record of public service and community improvement, and to congratulate the six year 2000 "Women Who Make a Difference."

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to honor those outstanding service organizations within this state that have worked successfully to improve their respective communities and the state as a whole through the good works of their talented, dedicated and committed members; and

WHEREAS, the Chilhowee Club of Maryville, Tennessee is one such dynamic organization. It was established in 1891 and is the second oldest Federated Women's Club in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Chilhowee Club boasts a healthy membership in excess of 200; sixteen of these members have been with the Club over 50 years; and

WHEREAS, since World War I, the Chilhowee Club has worked to improve the Maryville community in the areas of Public Affairs, Conservation, Education, the Arts, Home Life, and International Affairs; the Club opened Maryville's first library; and

WHEREAS, the Chilhowee Club has for many years been an active participant in the Blount County Dogwood Arts Festival and in concert with the year 2000 festivities did initiate an annual program to recognize Blount County "Women Who Make a Difference; and

WHEREAS, the Chilhowee Club did select outstanding women honorees in each of six focus areas determined to be important to the community; those honorees for 2000 being Mrs. Sharon P. Bailey, Home Life; Mrs. Sue Dawson, Conservation; Mrs. Carol Ergenbright, Education; Mrs. Kumiko Franklin, International Affairs; Ms. Corita Swanson, Public Affairs; and Ms. Martha Wright, the Arts; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Bailey, a native of Pennsylvania, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music from Maryville College, her Registered Nurse degree from Western Pennsylvania and then Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Nursing from the University of Tennessee. Mrs. Bailey has worked at Blount Memorial Hospital in the coronary care, medical-surgical, rehabilitation and intensive care units; she has worked at St. Mary's Medical Center as a medical-surgical nursing instructor and has taught courses in respiratory, oncology and critical care nursing. In 1981, Mrs. Bailey returned to Blount Memorial to establish a hospice program and train volunteers; in 1990, she was named clinical director of Blount Memorial's Home Services and last year was promoted to senior director of nursing. Mrs. Bailey received the Tennessee Hospital Association's 1999 Nurse of Distinction Award; and

WHEREAS, Sue Dawson, a graduate of Maryville High School, earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from Maryville College and a Master's Degree in speech pathology from the University of Virginia; she serves as coordinator for Keep Blount Beautiful, where she has worked since 1992. Mrs. Dawson's responsibilities include coordinating volunteer efforts to reduce litter and waste and completing community improvement projects; she is a member of the Maryville-Alcoa-Blount County Recreation and Parks Commission, the Maryville College Board of Church Visitors, a graduate of Leadership Blount, and past president of the Junior Service League of Maryville; and

WHEREAS, Carol Ergenbright received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Maryland at College Park and completed graduate courses in English and adult education at Northeast Missouri State University, State University of New York and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. She previously taught English at Homer High School in Homer, New York and High Point High School at Beltsville, Maryland and served as editor of *Opened World*, a Tennessee Volunteer Literacy Newsletter. Since 1984, Mrs. Ergenbright has served as adult basic education coordinator for Blount County Schools; she is a member of the Tennessee Association of Adult and Continuing Education, the Tennessee Literacy Coalition and the Blount County Literacy Council; and

WHEREAS, Kumiko Franklin is a native of Kyoto, Japan; she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in literature from Doshisha University in Japan and a Master of Arts Degree in linguistics from Ohio University. Mrs. Franklin, a resident of Blount County since 1986, first served as international coordinator for the Blount County Chamber of Commerce, and then established the Host Family Program when Denso Manufacturing arrived in Blount County. Mrs. Franklin is a consultant for the Japanese community and has previously served as principal of the Blount County Japanese School and as the Japanese instructor at Maryville College; she is a graduate of the Leadership Blount Class of 1993, served as the Junior Service League representative to leadership Blount from 1987 to 1997 and is active in the Dogwood Arts; and

WHEREAS, Corita Erwin Swanson is a native of Chattanooga and a 1958 graduate of Maryville College; her 42 years of meritorious service as a social worker consisted of three years with the Tennessee State Welfare Department in Blount County, three years with the State of Kentucky in Louisville and 32 years with the Hennepin County Social Services in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Following her husband's death, Ms. Swanson moved back to Maryville, where she presently directs the Good Neighbors Program, which she developed in April 1996 as a ministry of the Blount County Ecumenical Action Council. Good Neighbors responds to the requests of 15 area churches for emergency assistance and provides support to the community

with listening, advocacy and referral services, instruction in new life skills and the extension of financial help to enable people to develop their own long-term solutions; in September 1996, Governor Don Sundquist appointed Ms. Swanson to serve on the Blount County Families First Council, a community agency that provides support and monitoring for the welfare reform program of the same name; and

WHEREAS, Martha B. Wright, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was raised in Massachusetts and Indiana; she earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in art education from the University of Alabama and has studied at the Pratt Art Institute in New York. Ms. Wright taught for several years in Alabama before moving to Alcoa in 1959; she transformed art education from an oddity to a staple program in the area's public school and nurtured Alcoa's small art communities, which had increased significantly by 1964. She was also active in the organization of the Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild; Ms. Wright was instrumental in arranging for the exhibit of student artwork at Maryville College and in Knoxville through Scholastic Arts, and continued to pursue this interest until her retirement in 1989. Following her retirement, Ms. Wright developed her personal impressionistic style in watercolors, traveling throughout the southeast to exhibit her work; she specializes in miniatures in the 2-by-3 inch range and has recently been designing paintings for a manufacturing company in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, the Chilhowee Club continues to be a vital force for improvement in the quality of life and culture in Maryville and Blount County and has reached new heights under the able leadership of its current officers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the officers and members of the Chilhowee Club, Federation of Women's Clubs, of Maryville, Tennessee and thank them for their unselfish dedication to the

worthy goals of community improvement in the areas of Home Life, Conservation, Education, International Affairs, Public Affairs and the Arts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we honor and congratulate the six year 2000 honorees who have been honored as Blount County "Women Who Make a Difference": Mrs. Sharon P. Bailey, Home Life; Mrs. Sue Dawson, Conservation; Mrs. Carol Ergenbright, Education; Mrs. Kumiko Franklin, International Affairs; Ms. Corita Swanson, Public Affairs; and Ms. Martha Wright, the Arts, and extend to them our best wishes for every success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.